

Approved For Release 2001/08/06 : CIA-RDP82-00457R000700010009

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 10 Jan 52

SUBJECT Collective Farms in the Susice Area

NO. OF PAGES: 1

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NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF
INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1X

1. Certain modifications in the tactics employed in effecting the collectivization of agriculture in the Susice area (H50/Q28) have become apparent. Farmers were previously promised various advantages if they became members of collective farms (even if they did so under duress). This provision no longer applies. Farmers who are not members of collective farms are given very high norms to fulfill. Until now, if they did not meet their assigned quota, they were punished by having their fields requisitioned and placed at the disposal of collective farms. Now the penalty is a fine and/or a prison term. Even if they are arrested, it often happens that their farms are not requisitioned. In some instances, farmers who could not meet their quotas attempted to turn their farms over to collective farms, but their offers were rejected.
2. According to source, the collective farms did not fulfill the established quotas, and yields were even less than when the farms were privately owned and operated. Source states that greater demands are made of private owners, since force and threats can be used to assure deliveries, while this method cannot be used on collective farmers since the collective farms are mostly Communist-ruled and are composed mostly of Communist members.

Document No. 009
 To: General in Chief ☐
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